



DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS

DOMESTIC COLLECTION DIVISION
Intelligence Information Report

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COUNTRY USSR

DCD REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Appointment of NM Zhavoronkov to sub-group on Science Policy Exchange/Impact of Keldysh Retirement on Academy Exchanges/New Position for NG Rambidi

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REFERENCES

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1. Dr Ye I Sklyarov, Head, Science Organization Department, State Committee for Science and Technology and co-chairman of the US-USSR Working Group on Science Policy, announced during April 1975 that the sub-group on fundamental research will be headed by NM Zhavoronkov. This group was formerly headed by VA Filippov, Head of the Science Organization Department, USSR Academy of Sciences. Zhavoronkov is Director of the Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry in Moscow and is a member of the Academy presidium. The replacement of Filippov by Zhavoronkov elevates the status of this portion of the US-USSR exchange on science policy. His prestige as an Academy member is more likely to attract the involvement of other Academy members in the exchange. Despite delays in meeting deadlines for the provision of information and material, the Soviets remain highly committed to the successful implementation of this portion of the US-USSR scientific exchange program.
2. During discussions regarding the US-USSR Academies of Sciences Exchange Agreement in April 1975 there was no discussion by Soviet representatives on the leadership of the USSR Academy and no speculation regarding a possible successor to Mstislav V Keldysh. This situation was in contrast to the atmosphere prevailing during the Fall of 1974 when there seemed to be considerable jockeying as to who would be the next head of the USSR Academy of Sciences. At that time Vice President Yuri Anatol'yevich Ovchinnikov appeared to be the leading candidate. The announcement by Keldysh during May 1975 that he will retire as head of the Academy must have come as a shock to many in the hierarchy of the Academy. An exchange planned by the Academy groups for May 1975 was postponed as a result of Keldysh's announcement. Further delays are anticipated on those projects which require the approval and consensus of Academy leadership.

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3. Professor Nikolai Georgiyevich Rambidi, formerly with the Institute of High Temperatures at Moscow State University, indicated during a private conversation that he is now with the State Committee of Standards. Rambidi's research interests have been in the field of structural studies of high temperatures by electron defraction. He is interested in promoting an exchange with the US through the National Bureau of Standards for exchanging data for a compendium on molecular properties. Dr N Stepanov, a bright young theoretical chemist and a Rambidi associate at Moscow State University, indicated that he will visit Japan during the coming academic year to conduct research with S Ohno at Hokkaido University in Sapporo. He also indicated that he may leave Moscow State University in the future to join Rambidi in his work with the State Committee of Standards.

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